



School & Group Programs 2012

In addition to regular public programs such as those found on the monthly interpretive program schedule, the interpretive services staff offers private programming for schools, scouts and other groups by reservation. The following information should help you plan an eventful and educational trip that is sure to leave an impression on your group.



Indiana's newest state park, Prophetstown is located where the Tippecanoe River meets the Wabash near the town of Battle Ground. The park's landscape has been shaped by ice from glaciers, moving water, fire that helped maintain the vast tallgrass prairie and human hands. Native Americans hunted and lived along the two rivers for thousands of years. French trappers and traders found the land teeming with wildlife, and European farmers discovered that the rich, deep prairie soils grew healthy corn and wheat.

The park is named for a Native American village located between the rivers established by the Shawnee brothers Tenskwatawa (The Prophet) and Tecumseh in 1808. Prophetstown State Park provides a reproduction of the significant buildings of an 1800's Native American settlement. The village offers the opportunity to understand a Native American perspective of family, social, and political issues tied to this landscape.

Through a unique partnership with the non-profit agency, Historic Prophetstown, visitors can also tour a real working farm dedicated to showing the early American agricultural lifestyle.

Prophetstown State Park has over seven miles of hiking and biking trails available year-round which lead visitors through a variety of habitats of flora and fauna. Trails range in difficulty from easy to moderate.

Picnic areas are located in the park with tables, charcoal grills, restroom facilities, playground equipment, and shelters. Picnic shelters can be reserved for a fee by calling 1-866-6-CAMP-IN or online at www.camp.in.gov. Otherwise, they are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Prophetstown State Park offers many natural and cultural history programs for all age groups and grades - hands-on nature programs for youngsters, Indiana history for elementary and middle school age kids, in-depth programs about wildlife sciences, resource conservation, and environmental management for higher grades. We can incorporate your current class curriculum into any interpretive program, including additional physical education and the arts. Program costs are just \$2/person and the entrance fee is waived. If your program includes a guided tour of the Historic Prophetstown Farm, the cost is \$5/person. For more information or to schedule a program today call (765) 567-4919.

The following programs can be reserved for your group. Additional programs on other topics can often be designed to meet your specific needs and the needs of your students. All times are for one class - groups with more than 25 are usually split up into more than one group and include additional rotation activities. Most programs can be brought to your school or meeting site.

Prophetstown History

Chosen by Native Americans for thousands of years, this prairie, river, and wooded bluff landscape has provided the essentials of life and culture. We'll take a prairie hike ending at the re-created Native American village for a look at the family, social, and political issues that the Shawnee brothers, Tenskatawa and Tecumseh, and other Native American tribes may have faced. Discover how Prophetstown got its name during this interactive program.

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 2nd – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park or at your site, 60-90 minutes per group

Historic Prophetstown Farm

Discover early American agriculture at this real working farm. Visit the 1920s farmstead, milking barn, chicken coop, and more during your tour. Learn about horse powered farming and participate in barn chores including feeding the livestock, collecting eggs, and milking cows. **Note: this program is \$5/person and can be scheduled by contacting Prophetstown State Park or Historic Prophetstown at 765-567-4700, or visit their website at**

www.prophetstown.org

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 2nd – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Historic Prophetstown Farm, approximately 2 hours



Prophetstown Prairie

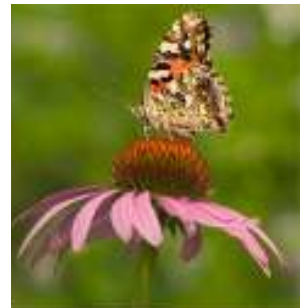
Prairie is one of North America's great ecosystems and a vital habitat for many plants and animals. During this hike, we'll discover the grasses and flowers that make up a prairie, the animals that depend on this terrestrial habitat, the benefits of prairie to the overall landscape, and the difficulties of keeping this grassland wild.

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 2nd – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 45 minutes per group



Wetland Wonders

The landscape at Prophetstown State Park was created millennia ago when glaciers moved and melted carving out waterways and wetlands. Discover why these aquatic habitats are important homes to some of the park's rarest plants and animals, why they are beneficial to future water events, and how they keep our water clean.

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 2nd – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 45 minutes per group



Habitat Trail

This program introduces children to the wonders of the woodland, grassland, and waterways. Together we'll take a short walk through the woods and prairie to encounter the homes of different kinds of animals. This interactive walk stimulates the senses by providing opportunities for children to touch furs, peak in a bluebird box, and learn new vocabulary. An upper level version of this hike further explores the park's unique habitats, such as prairie, savanna, woodland, riparian, wetland, and river ecosystems.

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: Pre-school – 3rd grade; 4th - 8th grade upper level program

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 30-60 minutes per group

Wild Edibles and Medicinal Plants Hike

Native Americans and early settlers valued plants for their medicinal and edible properties. Prophetstown State Park hosts an abundance of these wildflowers and berries during the spring and summer months. Students will stroll through the woods and prairie to discover the hidden benefits of wild plants.

Program availability: Spring and Summer Seasons

Age group: 2nd – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 60-75 minutes per group



Spring Wildflower Hike

From March to May, the forest floor is carpeted with spring wildflowers. Discover how these hardy little plants have adapted to grow, survive, and pollinate in such a small, and often cold, window of time. Students will learn to identify approximately ten wildflowers by color, leaf shape, and flower petals.

Program availability: Spring and early Summer Seasons Only

Age group: 2nd – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 60-75 minutes per group

Fall Leaf Collections

Take the guess work out of collecting leaves. We'll help students build their collections using a dichotomous key to identify trees and leaves. Everyone will gather ten leaves and grasp an understanding of key terms and tree folklore. [Optional Extension: Let's make a booklet and mount the leaves together for a small additional fee.]

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 2nd – 6th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 60-90 minutes per group

Resource Management: A Prescription for Success

What does it take to keep a park natural and beautiful? Discover how Prophetstown State Park is restoring native habitats to pre-settlement conditions, which include wetlands, wet slopes called fens, prairie and open woodland. Learn about the research for information and the methods for restoration including prescribed burns, prairie plantings, wetland reclamation, and greenhouse operations.

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 4th – higher ed

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park or at your site, 60-75 minutes per group



Herps 101: Reptiles and Amphibians

Have you ever touched a snake or held a toad? Get up close and personal with our educational critters! Discover the wonderful world of cold-blooded animals and see what make reptiles different from amphibians. Then gather some interesting and fun facts about their diets, habitats, and adaptations for survival during this live animal program.

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: Pre-school – 6th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park or at your site, 45-60 minutes per group



Birding 101

Students will identify common birds using field techniques and guide books. This indoor and outdoor program showcases the different habitats used by different birds, and teaches about how to create their own backyard habitat. [Optional Extension: Build a bird suet feeder or hummingbird feeder for an additional fee.]

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 1st – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 45-60 minutes per group

Geology Rocks!

Glaciers made their mark first when vast quantities of ice moved slowly across this land at least three times, carving the land into gently rolling topography. As the ice receded, rocks carried from the northern part of our continent were left behind – ranging in size from large boulders to gravel and sand deposits. And, as the glaciers melted, they carved out the river bluffs exposing ground water supplies. Students will gain a basic understanding of Indiana's geologic history by closely examining and identifying different types of rocks and landscapes.

Program availability: Year-round

Age group: 4th – 8th grade

Min./Max. group size: 10 / 100 (split into smaller group rotations)

Location & length: Prophetstown State Park, 60-75 minutes per group